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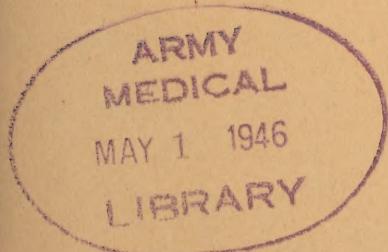
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS

SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE SECTION

W E E K L Y B U L L E T I N

For Period
10 February to 16 February
1946



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WEEKLY BULLETIN

SECTION I

WELFARE

General

Major R. E. Riordan, M.I., reported for duty with the Public Health and Welfare Section and was assigned as Acting Chief of the Welfare Division.

Welfare Administration

An agreement was reached, by interested SCAP staff sections, on the reply to the Japanese Government's welfare and relief plan. It is expected that the reply will be issued within a few days. An occupational force directive was prepared which related to surveillance procedures and details of the background material for the Japanese welfare and relief plan, and will be sent to Military Government companies and groups. Following the issuance of the Memorandum to the Imperial Japanese Government, the surveillance material will be distributed.

Relief

A conference was held with Eighth Army Military Government officers relative to authorizing the distribution of clothing stocks now held by the Japanese Government as reserve relief supplies. Details of the release authorization plan will be announced following approval by the Supreme Commander.

Social Insurance

An informal report was received from the Social Insurance Bureau of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, relative to the number of individuals covered, the amount of contributions received, benefits paid, and fund status under each of the five social insurance laws. A study of the report is being

made and an analysis of the information obtained will be released in the near future.

Repatriation

A conference was held with officials of the Health and Welfare Ministry relative to the reduction in the number of Koreans who are being repatriated. The conference developed the following reasons as stated by the Japanese Government:

1. That the Korean Association was deliberately slowing down Korean Repatriation by urging the Koreans to stay in Japan until the strikes were over. Their leaders also promised additional food and clothing if they remained.
2. That lawlessness was rampant and was confined mostly to Korean groups who refused to obey the Japanese Laws and considered themselves entitled to preferential treatment in this regard.
3. That the police were afraid to interfere with the Koreans and enforce the laws because they felt it would be unfavorably received by GHQ.
4. That a ship sailed on 30 January 1946 with only 476 passengers on it when its capacity was 1,570.

SECTION II

PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

Communicable Diseases

Typhus Fever. The incidence of louse-borne typhus fever has increased generally throughout Japan as indicated from reports received from Military Government units over the country. Although this increase is general, two epidemic areas have developed in southern Honshu at Nagoya and Osaka. The incidence in Osaka was beginning to rise rapidly last week, and, from the latest data presently available, had reached 600 cases since the beginning of the year.

Members of this Section and the United States Typhus Commission left this Headquarters to advise and assist Military Government Units in these two areas concerning control measures. Anti-typhus supplies have been furnished by the United States Army. (See Section VII "Supply".)

Inadequate case-reporting by Japanese physicians has been observed and reported by Military Government units. Responsible officials have been warned by them. Direct observation by members of this Headquarters of the actual dusting procedures for delousing has shown that the Japanese dusting teams perform this function in a slip-shod and unsatisfactory manner. Typhus patients have been found in the hospitals with live lice after having been dusted with DDT by these teams.

In many cases it has been necessary for the United States Typhus Commission and members of Military Government units to repeat classes of instruction in the technique of dusting and eliminate those individuals who cannot, or will not, perform the task satisfactorily. In general, the Japanese women are more adept than the men.

Smallpox. Smallpox continues to show seasonal increase all over Japan, although from available reports there is no definite epidemic focus. The production of vaccine has exceeded expectations and distribution to local health officials and to military units, for use on Japanese civilians, is progressing satisfactorily.

Nutrition

The nutrition surveys in Osaka, Nagoya, Kure and Fukuoka areas are expected to be completed during the coming week.

The drastic action by the Japanese Government, in changing currency and

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limiting the amount available to any one individual, is expected to make more food available to the general public as well as to sharply curtail black market activities in these commodities. If this occurs, the results should be reflected in the current and subsequent nutrition surveys.

Quarantine

Incoming repatriation showed an increase of 18,066 persons passing through quarantine (total for the week ending 10 February was 61,839), while outgoing persons showed a decrease of 3,728 (total for the week ending 10 February was 20,099).

One case of smallpox occurred in a member of the crew of a SCAJAP ship.

Arrangements were made for the preparation of a new repatriation center on Hokkaido with the Hakodate Quarantine Station as a nucleus.

SECTION III

ADMINISTRATION OF HOSPITALS

For the second consecutive week the ratio of beds occupied, to the total capacity, has increased.

The total number of in-patients and out-patients reached a new peak. The rise in the number of patients can be expected to continue for the next two or three months.

SECTION IV

NURSING AFFAIRS

Reports from Japanese

Pictures were taken by the 5th Medical Museum and Arts Detachment, of nurses' activities in three Japanese hospitals, namely, the Imperial Gift Charity Hospital, St. Lukes International Hospital and Central Red Cross Hospital.

These pictures are for use in the Medical Department of this Section.

Notice was received of a meeting of the Japanese Public Health Nurses' Association to be held February 20 at the Ministry of Health. This meeting is to be for the General Councillors and at this time they will discuss the following: (1) Changes of Regulations; (2) Change of Organization. After this meeting they will give their answer to the nurses as to whether they may continue their Association under the old constitution and by-laws.

General

The Asashi Newspaper Press is planning to erect an Institute for Physical Culture in Kyushu. This institute is to be established at Tsuyasaki-Cho, on 500,000 acres of land over which the Asahi Shimbun has custody. Part of the program is to be the training of Public Health Nurses. Plans have been submitted to GHQ for approval. The Nursing Affairs Division has been asked to make suggestions for planning the building as well as the program. An inspection trip to Kyushu will be made in March.

The Public Health Nurses of the seven prefectures of Kyushu are planning to hold a meeting in April, at which time this Headquarters will be represented.

Upon request, an article on nursing affairs was written for the Japanese Red Cross monthly magazine.

Korea

A manual entitled "Proposed Procedures for Maintaining Aseptic Technique in Korean Hospitals", is being written by Lt. Gillespie, ANC.

Isolation technique is to be observed at the 29th General Hospital by Korean nurses, after which a short course will be given in the Infectious Disease Hospital, the doctors having promised to cooperate.

SECTION V

VETERINARY AFFAIRS

General

The officer in charge of the Veterinary Affairs Division departed on a field trip to Kyushu and southern Honshu for the purpose of conducting a survey of Japanese veterinary affairs and establishing liaison with the Eighth Army and Military Government officials.

A representative from the Veterinary Affairs Division visited the Tokyo Veterinary College, a private institution with 600 students. The length of the school's course is three years. The entrance requirements allow middle school graduates to matriculate. The faculty is composed of 20 full time and 20 part time instructors. Compared with American veterinary colleges, the instructional equipment and facilities are inadequate, and the quality of the instruction sub-standard.

Reports from Japanese

The Veterinary Hygiene Section, Sanitary Bureau, Ministry of Health and Welfare, has submitted the following meat inspection report for November 1945. Thirty-nine prefectures are included in the report:

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Swine	Horses
Number Slaughtered	3,866	563	15	1,076	6,311
Ante Mortem-					
Totally condemned	0	0	0	0	1
Post Mortem-					
Totally condemned	5	1	0	0	8
Partially condemned	169	5	0	12	309
Viscera condemned	699	43	0	177	816
Dressed Weight	1,411,635	45,291	503	92,321	2,118,283

Reports by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of new outbreaks of animal disease during the week were one case of equine anthrax in Kagoshima, 3 February 1946 and one case of bovine anthrax in Hokkaido, 5 February 1946.

Equine Encephalitis in Japan. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of the Animal Disease Section has submitted a paper relative to present-day knowledge of equine encephalitis. In the 1935 epizootic 892 cases of this disease were officially reported. The causative agent has been proved to be a virus. Some investigators claim it to be the same virus that caused the 1935 epidemic of human encephalitis. The relationship of this virus to the virus causing equine encephalomyelitis of United States horses has not been proven or disproven.

Animal Shoer Association of Japan. The Chairman of the Animal Shoer Association of Japan, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, has submitted the Imperial Ordinance authorizing the association, the constitution of the association, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry ordinance relative to licensing of animal shoers. The membership of this organization is composed of those who, by profession, trim and shoe the hooves of horses and cattle, exclusive of veterinarians. The Association functions for the mutual benefit of all members by assisting in procurement of materials, establishing adequate and uniform pay rates, examining and licensing of newcomers to the profession, and distributing new information through lecture and study clubs.

Production Procedure for Fowl Pest Vaccine. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has submitted the method of production of fowl pest vaccine. This method is the same as described in European literature. The vaccine has a limited use in fowl pest outbreaks, but is not considered successful enough for general use as an immunizing agent.

Korean Report

The Chief of the Veterinary Department, Bureau of Public Health, Headquarters, Military Government in Korea, submitted a report on Korean veterinary

affairs. This included reports by Military Government veterinarians from four provinces. Their present activity concerns the following: plans for animal disease control; estimates of supply needs; numbers of veterinarians, livestock, dairies and slaughter houses; establishment of meat and dairy inspection service; and the budget for the veterinary affairs program.

SECTION VI

DENTAL AFFAIRS

Of 5,920 dentists who were bombed out, or otherwise displaced during the war, 45 percent have been restored to practice. Housing and equipment are required for the remaining 3,257 dentists.

SECTION VII

SUPPLY

Production

The Production of biologicals is favorable. Reports from the Japanese Government indicate that production of smallpox vaccine is exceeding the planned program. Raw materials are being obtained and the entire program is progressing satisfactorily.

A plan for operation of the Yoga Medical Depot was submitted by the Health Ministry for consideration by this office. The Yogs Medical Depot was formerly a Japanese army medical supply depot. The Health Ministry plans to utilize this depot as a hygienic laboratory for the purpose of testing and elevating standards of medicine and for testing surgical instruments. The laboratory will also serve as a research laboratory for scholars, an information bureau for manufacturers, an experimental manufacturing laboratory, and will conduct examinations of processed foods and liquors as well as supervise cultivation of medicinal plants. The plan contemplates utilization of all laboratory

facilities, manufacturing facilities and three of their warehouses. No hygienic laboratory is functioning on a national scale in Japan. The need for overall governmental supervision of medicines, foods and liquors, to elevate standards, is apparent. The plan is being studied further and will be coordinated with other interested staff sections.

Progress in production of medical supplies is still slow, but the trend indicates an increase may be expected.

Distribution

Distribution of smallpox vaccine was made as follows: 125,000 doses to the Surgeon of 11th Airborne Division; 60,000 doses to the Surgeon of the Eighth Army, 70,000 doses to the Surgeon of the Medical Detachment of the 368th Infantry at Urawa; 3,000 doses are to be shipped from Kumamoto to selected prefectural health offices in southern Japan.

A request was received through radio from the Commanding General of ASCOM 24, for 150,000 units of diphtheria toxoid alum precipitated for use in the immunization of school children in Korea. The Preventive Medicine Division concurs in the amount requested. A radio was dispatched to the Commanding General of the Eighth Army covering necessary requirements.

Typhus supplies for Nagoya were procured by forwarding 10,000 pounds of DDT by train and 500 vials of typhus vaccine by courier. These supplies were urgently requested through telephonic communication by the United States of America Typhus Commission on 11 February 1946.

Typhus supplies were procured in order to complete a mass dusting program in the Kobe-Osaka area. Arrangements were made for immediate shipment of 250,000 pounds of DDT, 4,000 hand dusters, and 12 power dusters which are required to carry out the program.

A follow-up was done on the distribution of medical supplies in Saitama Prefecture and a continued lack of proper distribution was encountered. The corrective action necessary was made known to Mr. Kamiya, Chief of Pharmaceutical Affairs of the Welfare Ministry, who accompanied the investigator on the trip to this prefecture.

Narcotics

Inspection was begun last week in Kyushu of narcotic wholesale houses and their narcotic storage facilities. This work is continuing.

An inspection of the 39th Medical Depot revealed that the inventory there is approximately three-quarters completed. All heroin found is being withdrawn and will be destroyed at the completion of the inventory.

In response to a request from H. J. Anslinger, the Commissioner of Narcotics, that the Japanese Government be required to furnish narcotic import and export information for the period 1940 to 1945 inclusive as agreed under the narcotic conventions of 1925 and 1931, a signed report was obtained and forwarded to the War Department for transmission to the Bureau of Narcotics. Commissioner Anslinger will furnish the information to the Permanent Central Opium Board, Washington, D. C.

SECTION VIII
LEGAL

No report.

SECTION IX
DIRECTIVES TO THE JAPANESE

There were no directives issued to the Japanese Government originating in this Section during the week.

Crawford F. Sams
CRAWFORD F. SAMS,
Colonel, Medical Corps,
Chief, Public Health and Welfare Section.

Incl: Weekly Communicable Disease Report.